N'S PARK THEATRE-2 and 8-The Lorgaire HEATRE 2 and S:15 Sweet Lavender. SQUARE THEATRE - S:30 - Capt. Swift. 2 and 8 Turned Up. a'S THEATRE 2 and 8 -Mrs. Potter. TANDARD THEATRE 8 Miss Esmeralda. THE GRAND MUSEUM-10 a. m. to 10 p. m. STH AVENUE THEATRE- 8-Julius Caesar 4TH STREET THEATRE-2 and 8-A Tin Soldier. STHAVE AND 19TH ST. Getty sburg.

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OFFICE FURNITURE Great Variety, manufactured T. G. SELLEW, 111 Fulton-st., New-York, Dears, Library Tables, 6 TRIBUNE TERMS TO MAIL SUBSCRIBERS.

Sunday paper for mall subsections of the control of the countries, in which cases extra pureas foreign countries, in which cases extra pureas, and by subscribers.

Between the countries of the

BRANCH OFFICES OF THE TRIBUNE. directisements for publication in The Tribune, and as for regular delivery of the daily paper, will be ived at the following branch offices in New York: reach office, 1.288 Broadway, 9 a. m. to 9 n. m. to, 950 Broadway, between 22d and 23d sts., till m. D. M. 808 West 23d-st., 10 a. m. to 8 p. m. 10. 260 3d-sve., near 37th-st., 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. 10. 1.020 3d-sve. near 61stst., 10 a. m. to 8 p. m. No. 180 East 125th-st., near 8d-sve., 10 a. m. to 7:30 Union Square, No. 153 4th-ave., corner 14th-st. 106 West 42d st., near 6th ave. 1,768 1st-ave. 1.768 1store. IN OTHER CITIES.

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New-Pork Daily Tribune. FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1888.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

Foreign.-It is reported that two indemnities accompanied the surrender of the Haytien Republic; one of \$200,000 for the owners of the vessel, and one of \$150,000 for the ship's erew; the report could not be confirmed at Washington. General Boulanger will contest the seat for Paris egainst the Ministerial candidate. == The British will build permanent forts before withdrawing from Suakim.

Domestie.-The steamer John H. Hanna burned on the Mississippi River at Plaquemine, La., and thirty lives were lost and many persons were badly burned. == A Central Pacific train was " held | up" by robbers at Clipper Gap, in the Sierras, and are disregarded. The State prison reports of == Factories, dwelling houses the various States, however, show that there covering three property, and acres, were destroyed by fire in Cincinnati. Total loss, over \$300,000. steamer Silver Star, of Bar Harbor, Me., struck a three minutes. Her captain and crew escaped. Carl, at Atlantic City, was killed by a drunken accepted the position of State Librarian.

City and Suburban.-Christmas Day was celebrated throughout the city and the suburbs by services in the churches, dinners to the poor and the prisoners, theatrical performances, athletic sports and in many other ways private and public. — The Brooklyn police made an arrest in connection with the death of Henry Stillwell, in addition to the one made in Newark on Monday. Some people in a Bowery tenement-house narrowly escaped being burned to death, while two men were severely injured. = :William A. Ogden Hegeman and the Rev. John M. Grady

The Weather .- Indications for to-day: Fair, followed by rain. Temperature yesterday: Highest, 50 degrees; lowest, 37; average, 43.

It would seem that action by the Senate in regard to taking the census next year ought not to be much longer delayed. The pending bill limits the census to seven volumes (instead of more than three times that number, which was the cutcome of the census of 1880) and the expenditure to \$6,000,000. A census is extremely important, but it need not be encyclepaedic in character, and the strict definition of its scope by Congress will undoubtedly be

A well-laid plan of the elevated railroad companies to get the better of the propertyowners who are suing them for damages is shown up in an article entitled "A Legal Paradox." elsewhere printed. There is necessarily a good deal of legal and rather technical language employed, but a careful perusal of the article will make it plain to every reader that the companies are hoping for a defeat out of which they will really plack a decisive victory. Hundreds of thousands of dollars are involved in the question whether suits for damages should be brought on the common-law or the equity side of the court. Fortunately, there is good reason to believe that the clear-headed Judges of the Court of Appeals will not fall into the trap so cleverly baited for them.

Seldom, if ever, has Nature bestowed upon New-York and its neighborhood a richer Christmas gift than the perfect day which yesterday fitly marked the time of peace and good-will. The balmy breath of spring was in the air, and the mellow sunshine lured everybody, except the most inveterate stay-at-home, out of doors. The skating promised a day or two ago was not forthcoming, but there was full compensation in the genial atmosphere and a temperature that made a light-weight overcoat almost burdensome. The cheeriness outside was everywhere reflected in the joyousness of the fireside festivals both in homes and public insti-

The burning of the steamer Kate Adams on the Mississippi on Sunday is speedily followed by the destruction of another steamer on the same river, with equally lamentable results. The steamer John H. Hanna, running

over the vessel with almost inconceivable rapidity. The boat was run to the shore, but rebounded when the bank was struck, so that this effort to save some of those on board was unavailing. Whether any attempt was made to lower the boats does not appear, but evidently the time in which to do anything was exceedingly brief. It is reported that the fire was caused by the carelessness of a smoker, which is exasperatingly inexcusable.

THE CRIMINAL PROBLEM.

The Christmas season is not one usually se lected to bring forward the more sombre problems of our National life, and yet just because it is a time of rejoicing it may be well to suggest the consideration of serious themes. It is not generally known, perhaps, that statistics show a decline in the proportion of those of our population who obtain college educations. In spite of the multiplication of colleges and universities, until the point has been reached where almost any boy can have such an education for the asking, provided he have the time to give to it, the proportion of college graduates to the population is declining. These figures are viewed by the educators of the country with concern. And while the relative number of those who receive the higher education is diminishing, the proportion of the criminal class is increasing. The contrast is not an encouraging one. Probably few persons realize the extent of

our criminal problem. The Rev. Frederick Howard Wines, secretary of the National Prison Association, gives some striking statistics in a sermon recently published. There are many intelligent persons who would be surprised to learn that the census of 1880 showed nearly 60,000 prisoners in all the prisons of every grade in the United States. Add to these more than 11,000 inmates of reformatories, who are virtually prisoners, and there is a total prison population of about 70,000 persons. The next census Mr. Wines estimates will show 75,000 or 80,600 inmates of prisons, and probably 15,000 inmates of reformatories, making a vast army of between 90,000 and 100,000 men, women and children confined on some criminal charge. Of those reported in the last census almost 10,000 were sentenced to imprisonment either for life or for terms of more than five years' duration. But it need hardly be said that these represent only a small part of our criminal problem. They have been compared to prisoners of war. The greater army is still at large and carrying havec wherever it goes. The cost of this incubus is enormous. It s estimated that the expense of maintaining the prisons amounts to fifteen millions a year, out this again is only a small part of the cost entailed upon the people at large by the exstence of the criminal class. The maintenance of the Police Departments, it is estimated, costs another fifteen millions. Then there are in the United States more than 2,000 courts possessing criminal jurisdiction, to say nothing of more than 80,000 Justices of the Peace, a majority of whom have a limited criminal jurisdiction. How much of the cost of this vast muchinery should be charged to the account of crime it would be impossible to say, but the aggregate must be enormous. Add to this the loss which honest people suffer by the depredations of criminals, for all of the latter class live upon the former, and we would have a figure which the boldest would not like to guess at. And the disproportionate increase of crime, unfortunately, is established by proof beyond dispute. The figures show a steady increase, greater than the growth of population, in every census, but as the figures previous to the census

No doubt a large part of the explanation of sunken wreck near Portsmouth, and went down in this phenomenon, as of the decline in the proforeign immigration, the problem with which negro, who was arrested .- Melvil Dewey has a committee of the House of Representatives is wrestling. It has been supposed that the young General Harrison spent Christmas Day quietly at Republic, with its hearty appetite, could swallow down any European refuse, and convert it into healthy muscle. But it is already apparent that we are suffering from a National indigestion. A more careful oversight of immigration is not the only remedy, however. Every man who helps by his voice and his purse the movements to increase the reformatory influence of our prisons, and to hasten the day when they may cease to be schools of crime, is not only doing a good service to mankind, but is working, as the figures given above show, in his own interest.

of 1880 are not believed to be accurate, they

is an increase of more than one-third in the

convictions for high crimes over the increase

of population from twenty years ago.

SALUTING A FLAG.

The announcement from Havana that the Haytian flag was saluted by Admiral Luce's fleet is a singular one. Why should a recognized method of international reparation have been employed by the affronted nation? If the American flag had been honored with a Haytian salute there would have been no ground for criticism, for the seizure of the steamer was an outrage offered to the dignity of the United States. It seems hardly credible that Admiral Luce should have reversed the natural order, and after receiving the condemned vessel have ordered the firing of the guns as a compliment to a petty Power which had insulted the American Government. Saluting the flag of a Power which has re-

eived an affrent is a form of reparation to which all nations have recourse. When the United States man-of-war Wachusett captured the Confederate cruiser Florida in the port of Bahia in October, 1864, it invaded Brazilian waters. Secretary Seward promptly disavowed the act, dismissed the American Consul advising the attack, announced court-martial proceedings against the captain, and offered to salute the Emperor's flag. In 1866 a United States man-of-war was sent to Bahia, where the outrage occurred, and the Brazilian flag was formally saluted. An earlier precedent the reach of inquiry by the Government. was the case of M. Dillon, the French Consul at San Francisco, whose attendance at a criminal trial as a witness was forced by order of the local courts. When the attachment was served upon him he hauled down his Consular has resulted much legislation, with a persistent flag. The French Minister at Washington attempt to legislate, on the theory that the taking up the case contended that international law had been violated and his Government | dends on watered stocks and bonds which repretreated with gross disrespect. A long contro- sent no actual investment. Another considversy ensued, but Secretary Marcy finally erable part of the voting population has scoutagreed that the French flag should be saluted ed this opinion, and denounced the acts and in San Francisco by the American authorities. bills based thereon. It has come to be essen-In the Virginius case a similar method of tial to a correct understanding of the merits of reparation was demanded from Spain, but was much railroad legislation, and to a just apfinally waived when irregularities respecting preciation of measures proposed, to know more the vessel's American register were disclosed. definitely what the actual cost of railroads has In these and other cases which might be men- | been. tioned the affronted nation received the honors of the salute. What could Admiral Luce have erating, where there have been losses. The been thinking of when he reversed the precedents at Hayti?

on the Quachita and Mississippi rivers, was burned near Plaquemine on Tuesday night, and the loss of life is placed at thirty. Flames were discovered about midnight in the cotton that formed the chief part of the cargo, and spread to be complimented in this way. A salute of bave a perfect right to fair returns when the loss of the Quachita and Mississippi rivers, was burned and Mississippi rivers,

only be explained as a vagary of good nature on his part, or else as a reply to a similar demonstration on the part of the Haytian gunboats.

GRADY FOR THE SENATE.

Tammany has named Tom Grady to fill the vacancy in the State Senate, and the County Demogracy, although the dose is an awful one, swallows it. Grady will be the only Democrat in the field, and since the district is overwhelmingly Democratic he doubtless will be the next Senator from the VIth. The incident proves that the Democracy of this great city do not care a picayune for the official head of their party. The nomination of Grady is a cruel blow to Cleveland when he is down. Following close upon his stinging defeat for re-election comes the preferment of Grady, than whom there is no Democrat in the State so offensive to the President. It was Grady who difficult have been done. If that were known, led the revolt of the Tammany Senators in 1883 which resulted in the defeat of the then Governor Cleveland's nomination of Mr. Murtha for Immigration Commissioner. It was Grady who openly denounced Governor Cleveland on the floor of the Senate as endeavoring with the nomination in question "to placate the Brooklyn politicians who had been driven from power at home." It was Grady who charged in the same philippic that Mr. Murtha was nominated "only because it was understood that he would do just what Boss Mc-Laughlin wanted." It was Grady whose reelection to the Senate of 1884-'85 Mr. Cleveland protested against in a letter to John Kelly, on public grounds, and because it would interfere with his "personal comfort."

Such, in brief, is Tom Grady's political record. He is anti-Cleveland from the crown of his head to the soles of his feet, and he did his best to defeat the Democratic National ticket in 1884. Still, he is Tammany's first choice for the Senate, and the County Democracy, while not formally seconding the nomination, contents itself with uttering feeble protests against it. "The Sun" reports some of the County Democracy people as asserting that "Galvin could beat Grady two to one"; but nobody hears of any serious effort being made to induce Galvin or anybody else to run against Grady. Governor Cleveland, a successful office-seeker, was able to prevent the renomination of Grady. But the feelings of President Cleveland, the unsuccessful candidate for a second term, are ruthlessly trampled upon by his political brethren in the great Democratic stronghold. Well may be exclaim, 'Authority forgets a dying king."

PETTY GAINS AND A GREAT LOSS. Now that Christmas has come and gone, and twelve months must pass before Santa Claus will have a chance to take revenge for disloyalty, it is comparatively safe to say that the system of holiday gratuities has grown into a complex nuisance of aggravating proportions. The postman, the elevator attendant, the janitor, the bootblack, the expressman, the grocer's boy, the club servant, the paper carrier, the district telegraph messenger and his colleague of the electric circuit, the milkman, the sceman, the kindlingwood man and the man who cleaned your sidewalk last year-all these and many others look for a Christmas remembrance with a persistent expectancy which amounts almost to a demand. No one likes to ignore a recognized conventionality, and least of all at the holiday season does the man who is conscious and glad of his own good nature wish to appear a churl in the eyes of anybody. And yet when the claims of affection and of charity have all been satisfied there are thousands who find it inconvenient to meet the exactions of custom. It often happens that the cheerful and zealous performance of small services and the daily interchange of civilities establish such relations between those who are expected to give and those who hope to receive that small benevolences may be bestowed with pleasure and accepted with self-respect. one side and the consciousness of power to inflict them on the other combine to produce the sible for a man to stand around all the time conditions which result in a gratuity, there is neither satisfaction in giving nor honor in re-

In other countries the system of tips is so universal and has been so long an established modus vivendi that it has ceased to be regarded as an exaction; but in the United States, though widely extended in recent years, it is still thought of primarily as a means by which the prudent man may shrewdly provide against discomforts. Foreigners used to be much impressed by the cheerful and friendly alacrity with which Americans in every condition of life rendered small services to strangers without expectation or desire of any reward except thanks. This spirit of helpfulness, founded on the sense of equality, is rapylly disappearing, and one of the most prevalent and conspicuous signs and concomitants of the new state of things is the ever-increasing number of well-to-do persons who are not only willing but eager to receive money which they have done nothing to earn. Most of those who are found in this category would be astonished to be told that they ought to be ashamed of themselves, and that is really the worst of it. Their inconsciousness of anything wrong or even uneemly marks a very decided and unfortunate decay of that independent spirit which was once a valuable National possession.

In connection with the census to be taken in ittle more than a year it would be well worth while to get definite information regarding the actual cost of railroads. What is wanted is not a collection of fictions embodied in annual reports. It is not a mere addition of the nominal or par value of stocks or bonds issued. It is not the opinion of a competent accountant, after more or less hasty examination of official reports. In a great many cases something entirely different is desirable, and is not beyond

For many years a considerable part of the voting population has believed that the actual cost of all railreads is but a small part of the sum represented by securities issued. There public has been plundered in order to pay divi-

The actual cost includes all losses in op money sunk in gradually establishing a new route, or in trying to establish it, is as truly Moreover, why were twenty-one guns fired? part of the cost of the existing property as the That is the salute which President Cleveland | cash paid for land or labor, rails or rolling would receive if he were to visit Admiral Luce's stock. The people who have been living five fleet; but it is not one which is ordinarily fired or ten years without bare interest on their

which they have struggled and sacrificed, has at last been attained.

Cost does not include stealings of officials, but it does include stealings of legislators. Not the least item in the cost of English railroads is that of "Parliamentary Expenses." There are some American States in which lawmakers have been an article of merchandise as well as railroad ties, and as a rule more rotten. Cost includes the cash which men were compelled to promise to pay in order to borrow the eash paid for labor or materials. If the money could not be had without giving a \$1,000 bond for \$700 received, the people who have been using the road, and whose lands have been made more valuable by it, ought to be as

ready to face that part of the cost as any other. It would be a difficult matter to get at the real cost of every railroad, but things more the pretences set up by some railroads would be completely exposed. It is equally true that some laws now in existence would at once be made void, because they take from a company the power to pay any fair interest on the actual cost of its property.

THE LATEST THING IN FAIRS.

We had occasion a few months since to call at-tention to a Rhode Island fair whose leading attraction was a balloon marriage. Two young people were found who consented, for a consideraion, to be married while standing in the car of a big balloon, and directly after the ceremony they started on their wedding tour, "going up in a balloon, boys," amid the applause of the assembled multitude and music by the band. lickets, twenty-five cents.

Now comes the news of another of these intersting fairs. It is to be held in one of the interior towns of Pennsylvania, and its delightful

star feature is thus described:

Two young women, noted for being excellent house-keepers, with a desire of making a Sons of America Fair, shortly to be held, as profitable as possible, have consented to be chosen in public to be the wives of any two young men who may prove acceptable to them and their parents. The young women will be at the fair every evening, and will have charge of booths. Any young man who is serious in his intentions will be required to say publicly, in a loud voice, in the hall where the fair is held: "I am here." To this the young lady who is nearest will promptly answer: "So am i." The wooling is to take place in the sight of all spectators, and if an agreement to marry is arrived at, it is to be publicly signed, the witnesses thereto to be selected from the audience.

This sort of thing, while not so picturesque or star feature is thus described:

This sort of thing, while not so picturesque or exhilarating as the balloon marriage, is perhaps equally as well calculated to draw a crowd. fact that " the wooing is to take place in the sight of all the spectators," although doing violence to the old familiar proposition that with people in love "three is no company," is well calculated to fill the house. Those who consent to make an exhibition of themselves in public can always count upon a large attendance, provided there is something unique and diverting about the show. It is known that the goose and gander who were married a few years ago in the large show window of a clothing store drew splendidly-the crowd

naking up in quantity what it lacked in quality It is to be hoped that the fool-killer will arrange to be present at this fair, and that he will attend to business. If he does so, a gloom may be cast over the fair, but its originators and pronoters will have been taught a salutary lesson. Men and women who can see nothing indecent in turning a holy institution into a catchpenny stand in grievous need of instruction.

AN UNSATISFACTORY PERFORMANCE. One night last week a dramatic company which is engaged in tearing the legitimate to tatters, to very rags, throughout the country, presented the play of Julius Caesar at Mifflin Centre, Pennsyl-From "The Mifflin Centre Blade" we gather that the leading citizens strongly criticise some things in the way it was placed before them. It seems that during the Senate scene, before assassination, Cassius sat down, put his feet on the back of Popilius Lena's chair, and pulled out a copy of a Philadelphia morning paper and began looking over the want columns. The probate judge living in Mifflin Centre denounces this as an anachronism, and "The Blade" leans to the same view. There were no newspapers in " We could readily those days, they argue. give Cassius," says the editor, " for placing his feet on the back of the Senator's chair and smoking three minutes. Her captain and crew escaped.

John Martin, mate of the schooner Annie portion of college graduates, is to be found in But when the fear of petty annoyances on the a cigarette, because doubtless those old Romans forcing immigration, the problem with which relax once in a while, it hardly being poshis arms folded under his chin and his nose high; and we know that even in our own Senate a certain member frequently slams his hat on the floor, dances up and down on it, and in a loud and distinct voice swears at the president pro the law? tempore; so, as we said, we can overlook the levated feet and the tobacco, but we must criticise the newspaper. It showed want of tact. Nothing serves to break up the illusion surrounding a Roman Senate scene like the crisp, dry rattle of a Philadelphia paper as a hamfatter searches

The point "The Blade" makes seems to us to be well taken. Cassius should have waited till after he had killed himself and the play was over before perusing the Philadelphia daily. show that "The Blade" is not hypercritical it is only necessary to note what it says on another "Some people," says the editor in the course of his able criticism, "object to the little by-play of Marc Antony, when, after saying 'See, what a rent the envious Casca made!' he turned to the audience and added: 'If Caesar had bought his clothes of Mose Rosenstein, the popular Alleghany ave. clothier, this wouldn't have happened.' We admit that this is wandering somewhat from Shakespeare's version, but it was business and not to be measured by the narrow rules of dramatic criticism. Mr. Rosenstein gave Antony seventy-five cents to introduce it."

"The Blade" also mentions the inferior way in which the soothsayer's beard was draped. ing," says the Mifflin Centre journal, "do cars." This is a flagrant disregard of the people's not wag back and forth in the air like a frozen pillow-case on a clothes-line when their owner travellers need? These corporations have had moves his lower jaw. A billy goat's do, but a man's do not. This soothsayer's beard was a foot long, and it pointed straight toward a spot | as a rule the people on whose patronage they deon the floor ten feet in front of him. It append are willing to submit in silence. The time peared to be made of broom corn; and it had been starched. When he kneeled and held up rights. Such remarks as that we have quoted his face to Caesar, saying, 'Beware the ides of March,' his whiskers flopped up and down in a way that grated very harshly on the nerves of our better Shakespearian scholars. Wire whiskers are not popular in Mifflin Centre."

"The Blade" also notes, in the case of Casca, that he got on his bald head wrong end front; thus, where he should have appeared with a high and expansive forchead running up over his bump of benevolence, the fact was he played with bangs reaching to his eyes, while the back of his neck extended to the top of his head. "The effect was far from pleasing," says "The Blade," "espeally from d rear view."

But the thing looked upon with least favor by our Pennsylvania contemporary was the death of Brutus. It appears that in dying this noblest Roman of them all rolled too far front, and when the curtain descended he found himself outside of paring for a tour in Europe. it and close to the footlights. Turning over, he struggled onto his hands and knees and crawled away toward the wings, to the disgust of many of the leading citizens "Is it asking too much," inquires "The Blade," "that our actors should die five or six feet further back? We think not. The spectacle of one of the greatest men known to Roman history crawling off on his hands and feet after he is supposed to be dead is far from pleasing. This man Brutus stabbed simself with a sword that looked like a cricket bat, and then he crawled off with about as graceful motions as are made by a double-humped fromedary dancing the Highland fling. This is

twenty-one guns by Admiral Luce's fieet can growth on which they have counted, and for die on the stage, and not in the orchestra. We believe that the next company which comes here can strike the idea of our citizens and play to can strike the idea of our standing room only if it will advertise, "They of her professional services. She recently rejected with scorn the pairty offer from the Sultan of over \$4,000 for a single performance in the palace. don't die in the house."

President Depew unhesitatingly pronounces steam-heating of railway trains a success, and says that is the opinion of railroad men generally. Nor does he believe, from the experience already had, that enough steam will be consumed to interfere with the speed of trains. This is expert testimony of the most valuable kind. The cost of the new equipment is the only argument that railroad companies can make against it, and the advantages of the new system are so numerous and unquestionable that the matter of expense ought not to weigh heavily in favor of the dangerous stove.

If a green Christmas makes a fat graveyard, what does a Christmas that is not only green, but clear, calm, sweet and balmy, make? We hope it made a little Heaven below for several millions of people in this immediate neighborhood.

This is alleged to be a degenerate age, but the company that has provided every seat in the Casino with an opera glass, which only a quarter will release, but which dishonesty might retain, is evidently possessed of an optimistic as well as an acquisitive spirit. How far this faith will be justified remains to be seen, but there are theatres in this city whose frequenters would cheerfully drop a quarter in the slot in exchange for space in which to stretch their legs, and give bonds to leave the space behind them when they went home.

Perhaps the most inherently cheerful man in this city is the man who was yesterday heard singing blithely to himself:

'Twas the night before Christmas, and all thro' the Not a creature was stirring, not even a rat." Mayor Hewitt took the right ground when he

applied the proverb, "Sauce for the goose is auce for the gander," to the case of the grocers who desired him to approve the ordinance of the Common Council requiring vegetables and fruit to be sold in the markets hereafter by weight and not by measure. The Mayor talked, as he usually does, with great force and directness. He failed to see why the marketmen should be compelled to sell to the grocers upon a definite basis while the grocers could sell at retail upon an indefinite one. The Aldermen's ordinance is not, in fact, in the interest of the people. enables the grocers who buy from the market wagons to obtain their supplies upon an exact scale. They buy by weight. But all that portion of the public which purchases its produce not from the public places but from grocery stores must buy upon the old scale. The doctrine of equal rights is clearly invaded here, and the Mayor was justified in the stern rebuke he administered to those who asked him to assist such

Whatever credit accrues to a ten-foot giant for trouncing a ten-inch dwarf belongs to the United States for its glorious victory over Hayti.

A question has been raised against the Army Ordnance Board relative to the awarding of the contract for \$1,500,000 of forgings for heavy steel guns under the terms of the Act of Congress approved September 22, 1888. The bill introluced in the House provided for "rough-finished oil-tempered and annealed steel forgings." The Senate bill provided for "rough-bored, roughturned and tempered steel," and the two houses compromised on the provision that it should be rough-finished, oil-tempered and annealed steel for high-power coast defence guns." The intention of Congress was to open the door wide to all steel manufacturers with the purpose of securing the best guns without regard to theories. The Ordnance Board, probably through oversight, added in the advertisement for bids the word forgings," but the instruction to bidders accompanying the advertisements specified that proposals are invited under the terms of the Act of Congress, approved September 22, 1888." The bids were opened on December 20, and it was found that there were only two bidders, the Bethlehem Iron Company and the Midvale Steel Company. The former was the lowest bidder, but the contract has not yet been awarded.

The kind of motor that the New-York Board of Aldermen believes in is not the kind that makes the car go, but the kind that makes the mare go.

nothing but a most welcome silence from the Chesapeake Bay oyster pirates ever since one of their craft was run down with grim results by a determined and practical cruiser in the service of

The United States is about to enter upon one of the happiest years of its existence, politically speaking. Republicans are happy as a matter of course; the only Democrats who have been seen in tears since the election are those who bet on Colonel Brice's rainbows, and now the members of the Administration, beginning with the President and his charming wife, are all declaring that they look forward with delight to the day when they can lay off the cares of state. It's a great thing to be alive and not kicking in such an era as this.

It was an interesting coincidence that the news of Admiral Luce's success in bulldozing Hayti arrived at the same time as the news from Samoa announcing Germany's continued interference in behalf of Tamasese, despite the king and solemn protests of Mr. Bayard. There is some difference in the tone and manner of our Secretary of State when he talks with the gentleman named Legitime and the gentleman named Bismarck.

When spoken to in regard to the numerous complaints of overcrowding in the Broadway cars, the president of the company curtly remarked that he considered the present accommodations amply sufficient, and added that "it is not our intention Long chin whisirers on the natural human be- to take any immediate step toward putting on extra rights. Is the company to be sole judge of what their own way so long that they resent any interference and anything in the way of suggestion, and will come, though, when the people will assert their will make it come all the sooner.

Grave injustice is done to the women of Boston by the intimation that they were responsible for the casting of illegal ballots for Mayor. Perish the thought that they took advantage of their privilege of voting for school officers to deposit ballets which they had no right to cast. The stories to this effect must have their origin in the brains of men who seek in this way to divert suspicion from themselves. One or two women may have made a mistake by reason of the nervousness incident to their novel surroundings and duty. but that any large number of them did so is not to be believed.

PERSONAL.

President Dwight, of Yale, denies that he is pre-

"If I had been able to follow my own inclination." says M. Dumas, "I should have occupied myself, I do not say exclusively, but certainly to a large extent no not say excusively, but certainly to a access extensively thereon and dogs, fencing and the chase, and above all, with gymnastics. To be possessed of great muscular power was long ago my ambition, and the should have secured it, for Nature has met me half-way, but fate-or fortune-deckded otherwise."

Mr. George W. Williams, the negro historian, has recently returned from Europe laden with the fruits of a long search through the libraries of the Old World for matter pertaining to Toussaint l'Ouverture.

The marriage is announced of Mile. Cabarrus, a descendant of Mme. Tallien, to Baron D'Anthonard de Draincourt, son of a veteran general of the Spanish expedition under Louis XVIII.

and dresses very simply, but looks more like an upaffected school-girl of fifteen than a young woman approaching eighter

Mme. Bernhardt has her own views as to the valu

When the late N. J. Bradlee undertook the moving when the late N. J. Bradies in derivors the moving of the Pelham Hotel, Boston—a feat in engineering thitherto unprecedented—some one suggested that probably the walls would crack somewhat. "I shall know it if they do," was his reply, "for I have taken great precautions." "But old cracks may be called new ones," was suggested. "I am prepared for that," was his reply. "I have pasted with my own hands very thin sheets of tissue paper wherever there is liable to be any strain, and the slightest crack will at once be apparent." There were none.

De Carver, the rifloman, is at Minneapolis, en-

Dr. Carver, the rifloman, is at Minneapolis, ondeavoring to shoot 60,000 glass balls in six days with a ten-pound rifle.

Rome, Dec. 25 .- Count de Foresta, secretary of the Italian Legation at Washington, has been appointed to the Legation at Brussels. He will be succeeded at Washington by Signor Denitto.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

Says an intelligent Government official of Japan; Our country is in a deplorable state as far as religion is concerned. The people of the better classes are largely agaptaics. They believe in no religion, and though the bulk of them are nominally Buddhists, they are really infidels. I believe that any religion is better than no religion, and there is at present room in Japan for all the work that both the Buddhists and Christians can do. When the two religions have conquered the empire and the sects come together, there may be trouble, but not before. We have now our preachers and the Christians have their missionaries. There is a vast field before us, and there is room for both to do good."

The Race for Style.—Miss Anglomania—Oh, dear!
That horid Mrs. Upstart has copied our house all the
way through. Everything is awfully English.
Mrs. Anglomania—She has? Such inpudence! Never
mind, dear; we'll keep ahead of her yet. You marry
an Englishman. Her husband is only an American
and she can't get a new one while he lives.—(New-York
Weekly.

Yesterday was a green Christmas, but it didn't do much toward making a fat churchyard.

Says "The Paducah (Ky.) News": "Rabbi Fleugel, of the Hebrew Temple in this city, yesterday received a letter complimenting his new book from a no less distinguished source than the Right Hon. William E. Gladstone, late English Premier, and one of the most prominent men in Europe. The great Commoner speaks in the highest terms of the Doctor's work, and says he perused it with the greatest pleasure, and is in accord with the sentiments and principles expressed."

Says the Democratic "Age-Herald," of Birmingham, "The North Alabama Democrats are tired of submitting to the domination of a handful of white men who live in the black belt and make their strength in the party councils commensurate with the fictitious majorities they 'roll up.' In this section Democratic majorities are genuine, and the representation claimed in party conventions is based on the actual number of Democratic voters and not on the multiplication table employed by ballot-box manipulators."

"What is the matter, my son?" inquired the benevo-

what is the mater, my series and the pale, trembling boy, who was lying across a barrel on his stomach in an alley back of a cigar store, and making exclamations in a sort of broken English at convulsive intervals, said he guessed he was one of the victims of the smoke nuisance.—(Chicago one of the victims of the smoke nuisance.—(Chicago For forty years the Austrian Emperor has worn the

crown and held together, with masterly tact, the various and varying elements of his composite realm. One would think him now entitled to repose. But late advices from Vienna betoken an impending conflict, in comparison with which all the struggles of Teuton, Croat, Slav and Magyar are, in the words of Mr. Grady, "as the dews of morning to the roaring flood." War, in brief, has been declared against the Train Boy. All the civil forces of the Dual Empire, backed by the army and navy, are forthwith to be arrayed against that storn Autocrat of the Railway who holds conductors at his mercy and regards the natural and inalienable rights of travellers with derision. Francis Joseph has sworn by crown and sceptre that the Train Boy shall no longer run the railway system of the Empire and incidentally dispense cheap literature and superannuated sweets.

And the Train Boy vows, by corn-ball and by caramel, that he will not be checked in his chosen career by any mere Hapsburg monarch. So the great dual begins, a duel to the death, with Prince Bismarck, the rest of the world and General Boulanger as interes spectators. Mindful of the Train Boy's nature, our sympathies are with the Emperor; but mindful of the Train Boy's prowess, we fear the Emperor will meet another Sadowa.

RATHER SET IN HER WAYS. No gal can be purtief'u Tildy.

She's peart 'n smart as a whip;
She allus is up to some mischief.

'N for feeling she don't give a flip.

She sorter makes sport o' me frequent,
'N sometimes laffs out in my face;
There's something quite odd in her natur',
'N she's awfully sot in her ways.

Pt home, when we set by the chimbler,
'N I hain't got a great deal to say,
Sometimes she will break out a sulckerin',
'N I feel like short'nin' my stay.
It seems the ten acres is nowhar,
Which will come to me one o' these days,
Pine-blank she has often refused me,
'N she's awfully sot in her ways.

She hints I'm too ole 'n too homely,
'N why should she ever have me?
'N she's snubbin' me jis when she pleases,
'N what it is fur I can't see.
What she see at my back when I'm absent,
She's honest, an' says to my face;
When I tell her she's very outspoken,
She sez she is sot in her ways.

She sez she is set in her ways.

My mammy she oft up and tells me:

"She's makin' a fool, Zeb, o' you,"

'N I am most led to believe it,

But what's a poor feller to do?

I love her, the dear little creeter,

Spite o' all that she does 'n she says,

'N so I hang on, hopin' Tildy

Some day'll be less set in her ways.

(Yankee Elade.

The negro refugees are rushing back to Florida and the hotels in that State are getting ready for the crowds of tourists, who, it is hoped, will rush down there a little later on.

His Choice.—Proud father (showing off his boy before company)—My son, which would you rather be, shakespeare or Edison?
Little son (after meditation)—I'd rather be Edison.
"Yes, why?"
"Cause he ain't dead."—(New-York Weekly.

To Mr. Henry W. Grady: Please write to the business men of Birmingham, Ala., for some information about

Limitations of Man's Power.—Baker—What is the price of flour to-day?

Assistant—Somewhat higher.

"Well, go down and tell the foreman to chuck in more yeast. Thank Heaven, old Hutch can't get up a corner on wind."—(Philadelphia Record.

Stern father to nine-year-old son-You will have to ake a back seat always unless you apply yourself to

your studies. Son-I don't care if I do, if I can see the show. Malapropos.-Miss Hecksher-Why, Tom, what is

the matter?

Tom—I'm irretrievably ruined: I sent Uncle Bullion
a snake ring to-day for a Christmas remembrance!

Miss Hecksher—I don't see anything particularly sail

about that.
Tom-My dear girl, I forgot that he had recently been confined in the Bayside Inebriate Asylum.— (Time.

From The Waterbury Republican. George William Curtis says Civil Service Reform is not yet dead. No; it isn't dead. We can hear it

SIGNS OF LIFE.

JUVENILE ROBERT ELSMERES.

This is an icencelastic age. If, nowadays, you talk to a baby in pantalets and pinafore about Santa Claus coming down the chimney, your only answer is "rais." The little agnostics even have serious doubts about Jack the Giant-Killer and the Seven Leagued Boots, and as to Aladdin and his Lampthat they reject out of hand. It is mournful to know too much.

IN THE CITY OF SISTERLY LOVE, TOO. From The Philadelphia Inquirer.

The girl who didn't receive a present from a cer-tain other girl rejoices that she didn't mail a present to that girl yesterday.

IT PAYS NO DIVIDENDS, THOUGH.

From The Atlanta Constitution. it seems like the good old times to see our esteemed ntemporary, "The Congressional Record," resume It seems like the good out times to see our extrements contemporary, "The Congressional Record," resume business at the old stand, and put in its appearance with unwarying regularity. "The Record," has a new dress, and is publishing an entertaining variety of matter. It is so popular in our sanctum that the literary editor rarely has a chance to see it, as it is cagerly snatched as soon as the mail is opened. It has a big circulation, and is evidently firmly established on a paying basis.

THAT'S FAIR. LET 'EM WINK!

From The Detroit Tribune. How would it do to have the representation by Congress based on the popular vate instead of population? We think this would make the solid South wink very hard.

HIS BONDAGE HAS BEEN SO IRKSOME